

ABSTRACT

A method and a system for data type preserving  
5 encryption of a data element in a relational database,  
wherein each data element comprises a string of at least  
one character. The method comprises the steps of: reading  
the type of a data element which is to be encrypted; and  
interpreting said data type in order to form a  
10 restricting character set for each character of said data  
element. Then encryption using said encryption means for  
encrypting each character of said data element into an  
encrypted character using said restricted character set  
to control said encryption means to only create encrypted  
15 characters included said restricting character set is  
performed.